

December 15, 2010

Board of Selectmen  
195 Main Street  
Maynard, Massachusetts  
01754



Re; Town Administrator Report

Honorable Board of Selectmen,

Please accept this report as an abridged version of Town Hall activities for the past two weeks;

**MAGIC Energy Summit:** There was a regional meeting held at the Goodnow Library in Sudbury this week. This meeting was to gauge where communities were in regards to developing sustainable plan for each town. There were three areas of focus, energy savings contracts or ESCO's as they are known, renewable power opportunities and energy manager all from a regionalization perspective.

Many of the attending communities were already designated as "Green Communities" and were looking to access the Energy Trust Grants for implementation of projects considered by the respective town.

A few communities were seeking planning grants as we are and some others have not applied, but were moving towards that process. As you know to apply for a planning grant you must meet three of the five requirements set forth by DOER and meet all five to be designated as a "Green Community".

Concerns over the stretch code seems to be the most difficult for most communities, but the towns who have already met this hurdle suggest it has had only minimal impact as most builders are building to the standards contained in the new code. There was little concern over the by-right zones; these are the two areas we must comply to move to the next level of designation.

The Maynard Green Community held its first meeting on Thursday December 9<sup>th</sup>, it was well attended and Health Director Kevin Sweet was elected Chairman. A number of ideas were discussed including some additional outreach to Maynard CAN and the Litter League. There was some strong sentiment for continued educational outreach in the community.

**Regional Transportation:** I was excited to hear regional transportation mentioned at the MAGIC Energy summit, this is consistent with our need to

create a model for the region, something you and I have embraced. There needs to be a save reliable way for Maynardians to get to work in Lowell without another car on the road and for Littletonites to get to Emerson Hospital for a check-up.

In the same vein I had the pleasure to meet with Franny Osman of Acton who is that communities mass transit catalyst (I am a big Franny O fan), Steve Dungan (Stow Selectmen) and Joe Mullin from Clock Tower to discuss how we may better use existing services to everyone's benefit. It became clear we need to find a seamless way to use our Council on Aging transportation formats to increase access. The idea being if someone from Maynard and someone else from Stow are both at Emerson Hospital is there a way for us to only dispatch one van and return both parties to their respective towns, it seems easy, but it is not for a number of reasons. Having these assets crossing paths is not very fuel efficient or sensible.

We also need to coordinate other transport assets such as The Assabet Boy's and Girl's Club and Clock Tower vans to close gaps and exploit resources. I look forward to lending support to all the regional partners as we figure out this puzzle.

**Fire Department Study:** The consultant group headed up by Chuck Hale from the great state of Illinois arrived Monday December 13<sup>th</sup>, he may have even passed the Chicago Bears in the airport as he was leaving O'Hare. Chuck had teamed up with the Former Fire Chief from Lawrence Richard Schaeffer and Dennis Dowd an instructor from the Stow Fire Academy to evaluate the department with the experience of career firefighters.

The report should be completed by early January and will hopefully serve as benchmark for change. Giving us a blueprint to improve where we are deficient and improve where we excel.

**Supervisor's and DPW Laborer's Union Negotiations:** I am anticipating we may be able to conclude the negotiations and complete a contract in early 2011. There has been a pleasant and cooperative atmosphere in both cases and it is clear all parties are dedicated improving performance.

**Route 27 (Waltham/Acton/Summer) Traffic Planning:** I met with Carolyn Britt, Marie Morando and Juli Colpoys to identify possible design funding sources. It was determined with some cooperation from DHCD in regards to a new "blight finding" for the area around Waltham and Powdermill we may be successful in utilizing some existing reprogrammable CDBG funds.

We do however need to expedite some traffic count studies so we will not suffer from the interruption of vehicular patterns due to the bridge reconstruction.

In a subsequent meeting I meet with Superintendent Flood, Carolyn Britt and Nick Rubino the head of the traffic division at AECOM to brainstorm about how

we may better coordinate traffic from the corner of Concord and Acton to the corner of Waltham and Powdermill/Parker. We agreed we need to get some traffic counts right away and move towards expanding to a master plan over the next year. This is an exciting process which will bear fruit long into the future for economic development in Maynard.

The goal is to move this concept to a position on the TIP for the MAPC region and get it under construction for 2013 or 2014 after the bridge completion. This project meets or exceeds the regional significance to be funded as a state project.

**Winter Parking Regulations:** Have been implemented with little complaint from residents. I have logged fewer than three concerns and everyone was generally supportive of the change. The Parking Clerk expressed concerns the change would have on revenue for tickets, the concern was noted.

**Old Mill Road:** We installed speed limit signs on the road last week and the Rod and Gun has agreed to immediately step up encouragement of their patrons to be respectful of the neighbors. They will install a sign in the spring to support that ideal.

I had one Mark's Way resident lodge a complaint about the signs who told me he sometimes goes 15 miles per hour, I suggested he slow down.

This is only a sampling of the issues and projects we have been working on in Town Hall on your behalf. I wish you all happy and healthy holiday season and look forward to helping with some of the exciting prospects Maynard has on its horizon.

Michael J. Sullivan  
Town Administrator